

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

The present invention is intended to control the reproduction, duplication, or charging of content recorded to a recording/reproducing apparatus using a storage-type medium. Storage control information includes data for controlling content recorded to a storage-type medium such as a hard disk drive. For example, if "0x01" is written to the first byte of this data and "0xMM" to the second byte, the content will be deleted when it has been reproduced MM times. If "0x22" is written to the first byte and "0xNN" to the third byte, the content will be deleted after the passing of NN days. If restrictions are set to both the reproduction count and the passing days, different pieces of storage control information are attached to the content; for example, content is deleted in accordance with the number of times the content is copied to another medium and charge discount setting is performed on the number of times the content is reproduced.

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